

City Manager's



Weekly Update Friday, June 5, 2009

Grape Bowl concert: Almost all the details of the proposed Grape Bowl concert have been worked out. The date of the concert, if it moves forward, will be July 24.

Bike race: A local bicycle racing team is developing plans for a downtown Lodi cycle fest, including several races, on Sunday, July 12. The event is based on similar cycle fests in Davis, San Luis Obispo, Santa Rosa and Los Gatos. We are working with the DLBP and the Recreation Commission to obtain their endorsements before moving forward. Delta Velo representatives believe Lodi's downtown is suitable, vibrant and spectator-friendly, similar to downtowns of the previously mentioned cities where the races have been successful.

Budget briefing: The City Manager attended a State budget briefing in Sacramento Wednesday. The League has joined with associations of special districts, counties and school districts to say the State needs to look at its own revenue sources. There also was discussion on the need for governance reform. The League of California Cities is announcing a summit on governance and fiscal reform and will ask for cities to send participants.

Stimulus: There is growing criticism at the local level that stimulus funds flowing through State agencies are being hijacked and slowed down through the control/review process, supposedly to reduce fraud. We were asked to submit a list of projects to the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley through COG and the San Joaquin Partnership. We were told the CPSJV would advocate collectively for all cities/counties, without ranking or prioritizing projects. This week we received the final work plan, which included a ranking of projects that weighs heavily toward the Fresno area. It is the opposite of what we were told would happen. The only projects in San Joaquin County relate to the Port of Stockton and high-speed rail. Interestingly, the work plan advocates \$108 million on high-speed rail for Valley purposes, of which more than \$100 million is for studies. City managers in San Joaquin County are disappointed in how this process played out. We plan on discussing this with our mayors.

Wastewater education: In addition the public workshop on June 16, we are putting together plans for an open house at the wastewater plant so residents can see the engineering marvel that it is.

General Plan: Preliminary drafts of the General Plan elements should arrive soon for internal review.

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